



PHILIP L. BROWNING
Director

County of Los Angeles DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

425 Shatto Place, Los Angeles, California 90020
(213) 351-5602

June 9, 2015

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

20 OF JUNE 9, 2015


PATRICK OZAWA
ACTING EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Board of Supervisors
HILDA L. SOLIS
First District
MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
Second District
SHEILA KUEHL
Third District
DON KNABE
Fourth District
MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

REQUEST APPROVAL TO EXPEND FUNDS FOR THE CALIFORNIA CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES PEER REVIEW CONFERENCE (ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)

SUBJECT

The Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and the Probation Department (Probation) are requesting approval for the Director of DCFS and the Chief Probation Officer to authorize expenditures for meeting rooms, hotel accommodations, food and beverages, and travel for the Los Angeles County Peer Review Conference to be held from June 22, 2015 through June 26, 2015.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Delegate authority to the Director of DCFS, or his designee, and the Chief Probation Officer, or his designee, to expend up to a maximum of \$46,000, to secure adequate meeting spaces, hotel accommodations, food and beverages, and travel to facilitate the successful hosting of this year's Los Angeles County Peer Review Conference from June 22, 2015 through June 26, 2015.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

DCFS and Probation, will host the Los Angeles County Peer Review Conference from June 22, 2015 through June 26, 2015. This State-mandated forum is conducted every five years by every county in the State. The event will commence this year in Los Angeles County with an Orientation Entrance Conference on Monday, June 22nd for peers, participants, youth and

stakeholders; and an Exit Conference with the same participants on Friday, June 26th at the Embassy Suites LAX South.

As part of the California Child and Family Services Review (C-CFSR), the Peer Review is one component in the County Self-Assessment (CSA). The CSA is required by the State for all Child Welfare jurisdictions to conduct. Funds to host peer counties and conduct the Peer Review have already been allocated to and accepted by the County. The county invites peers from other counties to spend the week reviewing child welfare systems, practices and policies, which include case reviews, focus groups with key stakeholders and interactive interviews with case carrying social workers and probation officers in order to and identify qualitative information to inform the CSA. The Peer Review provides qualitative information regarding county policy and practice around one key CFSR outcome area, children in care for two years or greater.

It takes a community network to work together to improve the outcomes for the children and youth in the child welfare and delinquency systems; therefore, Child Welfare Stakeholders are invited to the opening and last day of the conference to hear and learn about the Peer Review findings.

The Chief Executive Office (CEO) has reviewed and approved this letter. County Counsel has also reviewed this letter.

IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

The recommended actions are consistent with the principles of the Countywide Strategic Plan Goal 5 (Children and Family Well-Being). Ensuring that the Peer Review provides qualitative information regarding county policy and practice around the key CFSR outcomes for DCFS and Probation placed children along with directly supporting the departmental goals of safety, permanency, well-being, and self-sufficiency.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The projected State funded allocation of \$46,000 will ensure adequate meeting space, accommodations, food and beverages, and travel for a successful hosting of this year's Los Angeles County Peer Review Conference from June 22, 2015 through June 26, 2015. There is no Net County Cost (NCC). Funding is included in the Department's FY 2014-15 Budget.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

County Code Section 5.40.097, Incidental Expenses, authorizes department heads an annual sum of \$5,000, up to \$500 per occurrence, for incidental expenses for breakfast, luncheon and dinner meetings, conferences and events which are held for the discussion of departmental business and other necessary expenses incidental to the performance of the duties of county officers. These limitations did not contemplate the legitimate use of federal and state funding, such as these funds, for food and beverages used to host the C-CFSR event.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

The acquisition of event and conference services and venues, which may require use of their food and beverage services, falls within the authority of the County Purchasing Agent. Any such purchases will be requisitioned through, and accomplished in accordance with the County's purchasing policies and procedures.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES

As part of the California Child and Family Services Review (C-CFSR), the Peer Review is one component in the County Self-Assessment (CSA). The CSA is required by the State for all Child Welfare jurisdictions to conduct. The county invites peers from other counties to spend the week reviewing child welfare systems, practices and policies, which include case reviews, focus groups with key stakeholders and interactive interviews with case carrying social workers and probation officers in order to and identify qualitative information to inform the CSA. The Peer Review provides qualitative information regarding county policy and practice. Thus, the approval of the recommendation in this Board letter will support the continued design and delivery of high quality services by DCFS and Probation.

CONCLUSION

Upon approval of this request, please instruct the Acting Executive Officer/Clerk of the Board to send an adopted stamped copy of this Board letter to:

Department of Children and Family Services
Procurement Services Section
Attention: Godwin Nwufo
501 Shatto Place, Room 301
Los Angeles, CA 90020

Department of Children and Family Services
Bureau of Operational Support Services
Office of Outcomes and Analytics
Attention: Teri Gillams
425 Shatto Place,
Los Angeles, CA 90020

Probation Department
Placement, Permanency, and Quality Assurance
Attention: Lisa Campbell-Motton
11701 S. Alameda Street, 2nd Floor
Lynwood, CA 90262

Respectfully submitted,

for Cynthia McCay Miller
PHILIP L. BROWNING
Director

PLB:MR
tg:lcm

c:

Interim Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel
Acting Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Director, Internal Services Department

Jerry E. Powers
JERRY E. POWERS
Chief Probation Officer